

CLAIMS

1. A treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition consisting essentially of: -
  - (i) an organopolysiloxane having a viscosity of 1,000,000 centistoke ( $\text{mm}^2/\text{s}$ )
  - (ii) treated kaolin
  - (iii) a curing agent; and
  - (iv) optional additives selected from the group of one or more rheology modifiers, pigments, colouring agents, anti-adhesive agents, plasticizers, adhesion promoters, blowing agents, fire retardants and dessicants.which composition is substantially free of reinforcing fillers.
2. A composition according to Claim 1 in which the polysiloxane gum comprises a mixture of two polysiloxane gums having the formula  $\text{R}_2\text{ViSiO}[(\text{R}_2\text{SiO})_x(\text{RViSiO})_y]\text{SiR}_2\text{Vi}$  and the formula  $\text{R}_2\text{ViSi}(\text{R}_2\text{SiO})_x\text{SiR}_2\text{Vi}$  wherein in each formula, R represents an alkyl group containing 1-6 carbon atoms; Vi represents the vinyl group; and x and y each have values of 500-1,000.
3. A composition according to any preceding claim wherein the kaolin comprises a kaolin treated with an alkoxysilane of the formula  $\text{R}_{(4-n)}\text{Si}(\text{OR})_n$  wherein n has a value of 1-3; and R is an alkyl group, an aryl group, or an alkenyl group.
4. A composition according to Claim 3 in which the alkoxysilane is a compound selected from the group consisting of methyltriethoxysilane, methyltrimethoxysilane, phenyltrimethoxysilane, vinyltriethoxysilane, and vinyltrimethoxysilane.
5. A composition according to any preceding Claim comprising about equal amounts of polysiloxane gum and kaolin.

6. A composition according to any preceding claim in which the curing agent is a peroxide selected from the group consisting of benzoyl peroxide, 2,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide, di-*t*-butyl peroxide, and dicumyl peroxide.
7. A composition in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 5 in which the curing agent is an organohydrogensiloxane curing agent, and a platinum group metal hydrosilylation catalyst is added in an amount sufficient to cure the composition.
8. A method of making a treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 7 which method consists essentially of the steps:-
  - (i) mixing an organopolysiloxane and treated kaolin under room temperature conditions,
  - (ii) adding a curing agent to the mixture in (i); and curing the mixture in (ii) at a temperature above room temperature by the application of heat.
9. A method according to Claim 1 in which room temperature is normal ambient temperature of 20-25 °C (68-77 °F).
10. Use of a treated kaolin containing silicone rubber composition in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 7 in silicone profile extrusions, wire and cable coatings, glazing gaskets, and for construction gaskets.